

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----122192 051609Z /41

O P 051515Z MAR 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6911
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OUAGAIGUGOU NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 2757

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, TZ
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON RHODESIA: GARBA'S VIEWS

REF: (A) STATE 56353, (B) USUN 00775

SUMMARY: GARBA LIKES THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE CALLED
BY THE UK/US TO DISCUSS
THE ANGLO/AMERICAN PLAN WITH
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PRINCIPALINTERESTED PARTIES. HE WILL TELL HARRIMAN THIS
BUT VERY MUCH FEARS THE PROPOSAL WILL COME TO NAUGHT BECAUSE
NKOMO AND MUGABE WILL REFUSE. AS SECOND BEST, THEREFORE,
HE PROPOSES A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING EARLY NEXT WEEK FOR
DISCUSSION OF THE A/A PLAN WITH THE PRINCIPAL NATIONALISTS
UNDER SECURITY COUNCIL AUSPICES. HE WABU PUZZLED BY
OUR REPORT OF NYERERE'S PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE WITH

THE NATIONALISTS OUTSIDE THE UN FRAMEWORK SINCE NYERERE
TELEPHONED OBASANJO TWO NIGHTS AGO AND SAID HE THOUGHT A
SC MEETING WAS DESIRABLE. TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA IS
EXPECTED IN LAGOS TOMORROW AND GARBA WILL CALL MY BRITISH
COLLEAGUE AND ME TO MEET WITH HIM AND MKAPA TO DISCUSS THE
QUESTION FURTHER. END SUMMARY.

1. SAM FALLE AND I CALLED ON GARBA AT HIS HOME THIS
MORNING. HE WAS FRIENDLY AND RELAXED.

2. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION GARBA CONCLUDED AS FOLLOWS:
IF IT WERE POSSIBLE FOR UK AND US TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE
OF ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED, THIS WOULD BE FINE. HOW-
EVER, JUDGING BY PAST EXPERIENCE, IT SEEMED UNLIKELY THAT
NKOMO AND MUGABE WOULD COME TO SUCH A CONFERENCE CONVENED
BY UK/US. THEREFORE IT WOULD PROBABLY BE NECESSARY FOR THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO MEET.

3. SUCH A MEETING COULD EITHER:
(A) CALL ON THE INTERESTED PARTIES TO MEET TO CONTINUE
DISCUSSIONS OF THE AAP UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL IN NEW YORK. IN THIS CASE GARBA THOUGHT NKOMO
AND MAGABE WOULD BE LIKELY TO COME. (GARBA APPEARED TO
HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE ATTENDANCE OF MUZOREWA AND
SITHOLE. WE DID NOT MENTION CHIRAU.)

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LAGOS 2757

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OR (B) HAVE A FULL DEBATE OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM
WITH THE FOUR NATIONALIS LEADERS PARTICIPATING.
(GARBA TOOK OUR POINT THAT THIS COULD RISK A CON-
FRONTATION BETWEEN THE AFRICANS AND THE WEST. HE
FULLY AGREED WITH US THAT SUCH A CONFRONTATION WAS MOST
UNDESIRABLE AND WAS ANXIOUS TO KNOW IF WE HADNNFY
INDICATION OF THE SOVIET ATTITUDE ON THIS QUESTION.)

4. GARBA SAID THAT AS EVENTS WERE MOVING SO FAST HE FELT
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IT WAS IN ANY CASE PREMATURE TO HAVE A SECURITY COUNCIL
MEETING BEFORE MONDAY, MARCH 13.

5. GARBA SAID NYERERE HAD TELEPHONED OBASANJO ON THE
EVENING OF MARCH 3 TO SAY THAT HE THOUGHT A SECURITY
COUNCIL MEETING WAS DESIRABLE. WE SAID THAT THIS DID NOT
FULLY TALLY WITH OUR INFORMATION, WHICH WAS THAT NYERERE HAD
SUGGESTED UK/US CALL A MEETING OF ALL THE INTERESTED
PARTIES. GARBA THEN SAID TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
MKAPA WAS DUE IN LAGOS MOMENTARILY, "PROBABLY MONDAY,
MARCH 6." HE AGREED THAT HE AND MKAPA WOULD CALL FALLE
AND ME TOGETHER AS SOON AS MKAPA SHOWED UP IN ORDER THAT
WE MIGHT "SORT THIS ALL OUT."

6. GARBA IS VERY INTERESTED IN NKOMO'S ATTITUDE AND ASKED
FALLE WHETHER WE KNEW WHAT HE REALLY THOUGHT. "THE
BRITISH MUST HAVE THEIR SOURCES." WE AGREED THAT NKOMO'S
PRINCIPAL AND OBVIOUS CONCERN WAS TO BECOME THE FIRST
PRESIDENT OF ZIMBABWE, BUT WE ADMITTED IT WAS NOT
CLEAR HOW FAR HE WOULD COMPROMISE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE
THIS. GARBA SAW NKOMO'S ATTITUDE AS THE TKEY TO WHAT
HAPPENED NEXT. HE WAS PLEASED ABOUT NYERERE'S AND MACHELWUS
CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE AAP.

7. WE LEFT IT THAT GARBA WILL TELEPHONE HARRIMAN AND
PRESUMABLY TELL HIM NOT TO PRESS FOR AN IMMEDIATE SC
MEETING. GARBA WILL CALL US, HOPEFULLY TOMORROW,
FOR A MEETING WITH MKAPA.

8. IF YOU HAVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS MEETING, WE
WOULD WELCOME THEM BY 0900Z TOMORROW MONDAY MARCH 6.

9. FALLE AND I HAVE DRAFTED THIS TOGETHER, AND HE IS
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SENDING SIMILAR TEXT THROUGH HIS CHANNELS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, NATIONALISTS, MEETINGS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS02757
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS, CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850067-2269
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803105/aaaadlfc.tel
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Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 56353, 78 USUN NEW YORK 775
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3113202
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON RHODESIA: GARBAI'S VIEWS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, TZ, UK, NI, UNSC
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/893f7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014